

1-1 By: Ellis S.B. No. 2280
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;
1-4 April 29, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; April 29, 2009,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2280 By: Seliger

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the creation of the Reentry Policy Council to review
1-11 corrections policies, programs, and procedures for inmates
1-12 released into the community.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 4, Government Code, is amended
1-15 by adding Chapter 415 to read as follows:

1-16 CHAPTER 415. REENTRY POLICY COUNCIL

1-17 Sec. 415.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "council" means
1-18 the Reentry Policy Council.

1-19 Sec. 415.002. COUNCIL; COMPOSITION. (a) The Reentry
1-20 Policy Council is created.

1-21 (b) The council is composed of the following 37 members:

1-22 (1) the director of the criminal justice division of
1-23 the governor's office or the director's designee;

1-24 (2) the presiding officer of the Board of Pardons and
1-25 Paroles or the presiding officer's designee;

1-26 (3) the executive director of the Texas Department of
1-27 Criminal Justice or the executive director's designee;

1-28 (4) the director of the parole division of the Texas
1-29 Department of Criminal Justice or the director's designee;

1-30 (5) the director of the community justice assistance
1-31 division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the
1-32 director's designee;

1-33 (6) the director of the rehabilitation and reentry
1-34 programs division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or
1-35 the director's designee;

1-36 (7) the director of the Texas Correctional Office on
1-37 Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments or the director's
1-38 designee;

1-39 (8) the executive director of the Texas Workforce
1-40 Commission or the executive director's designee;

1-41 (9) the executive commissioner of the Texas Youth
1-42 Commission or the executive commissioner's designee;

1-43 (10) the executive director of the Texas Juvenile
1-44 Probation Commission or the executive director's designee;

1-45 (11) the chair of the Task Force on Indigent Defense or
1-46 the chair's designee;

1-47 (12) the chair of the Texas Judicial Council or the
1-48 chair's designee;

1-49 (13) the assistant commissioner for the mental health
1-50 and substance abuse services division of the Department of State
1-51 Health Services;

1-52 (14) the commissioner of the Department of Aging and
1-53 Disability Services or the commissioner's designee;

1-54 (15) the commissioner of education of the Texas
1-55 Education Agency or the commissioner's designee;

1-56 (16) the executive director of the Texas Department of
1-57 Licensing and Regulation or the executive director's designee;

1-58 (17) the executive director of the Department of
1-59 Family and Protective Services or the executive director's
1-60 designee;

1-61 (18) the executive director of the Texas Department of
1-62 Housing and Community Affairs or the executive director's designee;

1-63 (19) the executive director of the Council on Sex

2-1 Offender Treatment or the executive director's designee;
 2-2 (20) the public safety director of the Department of
 2-3 Public Safety or the director's designee;
 2-4 (21) the director of the child support division of the
 2-5 office of the attorney general or the director's designee;
 2-6 (22) the executive director of the Sheriffs'
 2-7 Association of Texas or the executive director's designee;
 2-8 (23) the executive director of the Texas District and
 2-9 County Attorneys Association or the executive director's designee;
 2-10 (24) the executive director of the Texas Criminal
 2-11 Defense Lawyers Association or the executive director's designee;
 2-12 (25) the executive director of Texas RioGrande Legal
 2-13 Aid or the executive director's designee;
 2-14 (26) the executive director of the Restorative Justice
 2-15 Ministries Network of Texas or the executive director's designee;
 2-16 (27) the executive director of the Texas Conference of
 2-17 Urban Counties or the executive director's designee;
 2-18 (28) the executive director of the Deep East Texas
 2-19 Council of Governments or the executive director's designee;
 2-20 (29) the director of the City of Houston Department of
 2-21 Health and Human Services or the director's designee;
 2-22 (30) the presiding officer of the standing committee
 2-23 of the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over
 2-24 corrections issues or the presiding officer's designee;
 2-25 (31) the presiding officer of the standing committee
 2-26 of the senate with primary jurisdiction over corrections issues or
 2-27 the presiding officer's designee;
 2-28 (32) a representative of a nonprofit organization that
 2-29 advocates for reducing obstacles to the reintegration of offenders
 2-30 into the community following their release or discharge, appointed
 2-31 by the governor;
 2-32 (33) one public member who resides in Bexar County and
 2-33 has experience working on reentry issues, appointed by the county
 2-34 judge of Bexar County;
 2-35 (34) one public member who resides in Dallas County
 2-36 and has experience working on reentry issues, appointed by the
 2-37 county judge of Dallas County;
 2-38 (35) one public member who resides in El Paso County
 2-39 and has experience working on reentry issues, appointed by the
 2-40 county judge of El Paso County;
 2-41 (36) one public member who resides in Tarrant County
 2-42 and has experience working on reentry issues, appointed by the
 2-43 county judge of Tarrant County; and
 2-44 (37) one public member who resides in Travis County
 2-45 and has experience working on reentry issues, appointed by the
 2-46 county judge of Travis County.
 2-47 Sec. 415.003. DUTIES; ANNUAL REPORT. (a) The council
 2-48 shall:
 2-49 (1) analyze the statutory and regulatory obstacles to,
 2-50 and practices that impede, the reintegration of offenders into the
 2-51 community following their release or discharge;
 2-52 (2) examine methods of pooling resources and revenue
 2-53 streams to reduce the rate of recidivism among offenders;
 2-54 (3) identify best practices that have proven to be
 2-55 effective in reentry support, treatment, and intervention intended
 2-56 to reduce the harmful effects of an offender's confinement on the
 2-57 offender's family and community;
 2-58 (4) advise the governor and the director of the
 2-59 criminal justice division of the governor's office on effective
 2-60 reentry policies and programs that can be funded through federal,
 2-61 state, and private grants; and
 2-62 (5) perform any other duties required by the Second
 2-63 Chance Act of 2007 (Pub. L. No. 110-199).
 2-64 (b) Not later than September 1 of each year, the council
 2-65 shall deliver a report of the council's findings and
 2-66 recommendations to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
 2-67 speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing
 2-68 committees of the house of representatives and the senate with
 2-69 primary jurisdiction over corrections matters.

3-1 Sec. 415.004. TENURE OF MEMBERS. (a) An appointed member
3-2 of the council serves a two-year term.
3-3 (b) A member who serves on the council by virtue of the
3-4 member's office serves on the council for the period during which
3-5 the member holds that office.
3-6 Sec. 415.005. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of
3-7 the council serves without compensation but, from funds
3-8 appropriated to the criminal justice division of the governor's
3-9 office, is entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary
3-10 expenses incurred in the performance of official council duties as
3-11 provided by Chapter 660.
3-12 Sec. 415.006. PRESIDING OFFICER. The council shall select
3-13 from among its members a presiding officer of the council.
3-14 Sec. 415.007. MEETINGS. The council shall meet at the call
3-15 of the presiding officer.
3-16 Sec. 415.008. TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE. The
3-17 criminal justice division of the governor's office shall provide
3-18 the council with resources for:
3-19 (1) data collection, research, and analysis; and
3-20 (2) publication of the council's findings and reports.
3-21 Sec. 415.009. GRANTS AND DONATIONS. The council may accept
3-22 grants and donations from public and private entities.
3-23 Sec. 415.010. CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER LAW. Chapter 2110
3-24 does not apply to the council.
3-25 Sec. 415.011. SUNSET PROVISION; COUNCIL ABOLISHED. The
3-26 council is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act). Unless
3-27 continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the council is
3-28 abolished and this chapter expires September 1, 2013.
3-29 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than the 60th day after the
3-30 effective date of this Act, the governor, the county judge of Bexar
3-31 County, the county judge of Dallas County, the county judge of El
3-32 Paso County, the county judge of Tarrant County, and the county
3-33 judge of Travis County shall make the appointments required by
3-34 Chapter 415, Government Code, as added by this Act.
3-35 (b) The Reentry Policy Council shall submit the first report
3-36 required by Section 415.003, Government Code, as added by this Act,
3-37 not later than September 1, 2010.
3-38 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3-39 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3-40 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3-41 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3-42 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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